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TCS - 2159/65
IB - 78/65
18 March 1965
Copy # 1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Resources Division, ORR
ATTENTION : [REDACTED] R/FU 25X1A
THROUGH : Chief, Requirements Branch, Reconnaissance Group, CGS
FROM : Chief, Photographic Intelligence Division, CIA
SUBJECT : Syzran Petroleum Refinery, USSR
REFERENCES : (1) ORR Requirement No. C-RR4-81,224
(2) CIA/PID Project No. 30289-4

1. This memorandum is in response to the above mentioned requirement, which requested an analysis and a comparative study of the Syzran or "Stalin" Petroleum Refinery located near Syzran, USSR.

2. Information, as requested, concerning this refinery, is as follows:

a. Location - This refinery is located at Syzran approximately 3.4 nautical miles south-southwest from the southern edge of the city and approximately 12 nautical miles southeast of Syzran Northeast Airfield. The geographic coordinates of the approximate center of this site are 53 04 10N - 48 23 50E (See figures 1 and 2).

b. Areal Extent - The refinery is basically rectangular in shape, measuring approximately 6800 feet by 12,000 feet and is oriented NNW - SSE. The approximate total area within the refinery, including the area of storage basins, is 81,600,000 square feet or 2.9 square miles. The approximate area excluding the storage basins is 1.8 square miles.

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c. Construction Status - From examination of photographic coverage over this refinery between [REDACTED] it is noted that considerable expansion has taken place. Several additional refining and probable petrochemical units have been constructed. Additional construction is presently underway. There is room within and adjacent to the Syzran refinery for further expansion. Sections where additions to the refinery have taken place are outlined in double lines and are annotated by letters rather than numbers on the overlay.

Declass Review by NIMA/DoD

Excluded from automatic
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d. Photography - All available photographic coverage was utilized in this study. For purposes of comparison and because of photographic quality, materials from one overflight and two satellite missions are included in this memorandum. These photographs are from Missions [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] respectively (See figures 3-5). Details concerning the identification of refinery components are presented in section three.

3. The overlay accompanying figure five outlines the refinery area and the various sections within the refinery.

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a. Components of the refinery present and apparently in operation at the time of coverage of [REDACTED] are outlined with single dashed lines and annotated with numbers on the overlay. Analysis of these areas is presented under the number corresponding to that on the overlay sheet.

- (1) Flood plain of the Volga River
- (2) Probable pipeline connecting the refinery and docking facilities on the Volga River
- (3) Paralleling road and railroad running from Syzran, along the Volga River, to Saratov
- (4) Heat and power plant with spray ponds, transformer yard, coal piles, and other associated facilities
- (5) Area of administration buildings
- (6) Many open crude storage basins and two storage tanks
- (7) Tank farm
- (8) Probable combination unit
- (9) Tank farm, probable intermediate and final product storage
- (10) Tank farm, probable crude storage
- (11) Tank farm, probable intermediate and final product storage
- (12) Probable crude distillation unit and three possible desalting units
- (13) Tank car loading and unloading racks
- (14) Large processing building with row of tank-like cases along west side and several storage tanks directly south of building. Possibly a treating area for heavy bitumens
- (15) Area of shop and maintenance buildings. Also contains two cooling towers, possible waste settling ponds and two possible processing buildings
- (16) Area of administration and possible shop buildings
- (17) Four probable crude distillation units
- (18) Water treatment area, with spray ponds and probable cooling towers
- (19) Two cracking units with probable gas recovery and processing area located between the cracking units
- (20) Tank farm, probable intermediate and final product storage
- (21) Open area with three flare towers visible as late as [REDACTED] apparently no longer being used.

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b. Areas where considerable expansion has occurred since [REDACTED] or where construction is presently underway are outlined with double lines and are annotated with letters rather than numbers on the overlay sheet. Analysis of these components of the refinery follows:

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(a) Area of probable final production storage prior to shipment, also including a large building which may be for packaging and warehousing. Horizontal tanks at north end of area were present in [REDACTED] and the large building was under construction at that time. All construction was apparently complete by [REDACTED]

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(b) Two cracking units, south unit was under construction in [REDACTED] and appears complete by [REDACTED]. Construction on the north catalytic cracking unit was well under way [REDACTED] coverage and was apparently nearing completion by [REDACTED]

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(c) Possible gas recovery and fractionation units for recovery and separation of "Cracked" gases, construction on these units was nearing completion in [REDACTED]

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(d) Probable cracking unit with construction just started by [REDACTED]

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(e) Unidentified processing area with construction starting on a portion of the facilities in the [REDACTED]. A tall processing tower and associated facilities were erected between the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Four medium size storage tanks were also constructed in this area during this same period.

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(f) Area of unidentified construction activity. Work started in this area in the [REDACTED]

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(g) Processing area with construction, as indicated by slight ground scaring, starting in the early [REDACTED]. Work was still in progress in [REDACTED] although most units appear to have been erected by that time. This possible petrochemical area appears complete by the [REDACTED] and is definitely operable at present.

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(h) Area of flare towers, flares were first observed burning at this location on coverage of [REDACTED]

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(i) Probable water treatment area, with settling ponds and cooling towers, most of which were present in [REDACTED]. At various stages since that time several buildings and tanks for use in unidentified processes have been built. A few storage tanks are also present in this area.

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(j) Probable concrete oil storage basins are located in this section. Most of these basins were either under construction in [REDACTED] or have been entirely built since that time.

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(k) Structures present in this area in [REDACTED] included several small probable shop and maintenance buildings, two possible desalting units and a couple of storage tanks. Additions since then include a small unidentified processing unit apparently still under construction, several small unidentified buildings, mostly erected since [REDACTED] and one large shop type building on which construction appeared to be just started in [REDACTED] and evidently not completed until after [REDACTED]

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4. The Syzran Refinery is served by a rail spur off the Syzran - Saratov railway, by road, and probably by pipelines from oilfields in the area. The refinery is also connected to nearby docking facilities on the Volga River by pipeline.

5. All measurements have been made by the CIA/PID/IB Project Analyst. They should be considered as approximate and must not be taken as official NPIC mensuration data compiled by the Technical Intelligence Division, NPIC.

6. The photo analyst assigned to this project was [REDACTED] who may be contacted on extension 2546 should any questions arise concerning this memorandum. This memorandum and attachments complete the requirement.

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Enclosures:

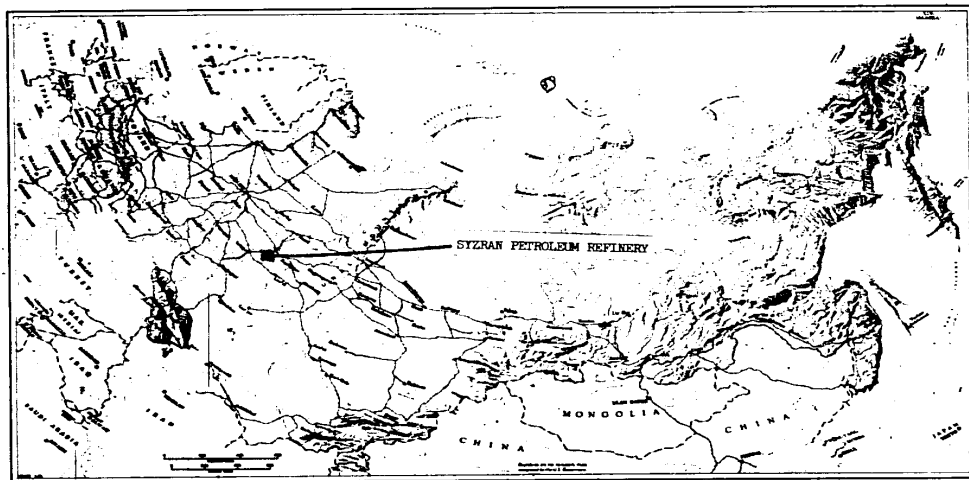
- 2 Annotated Maps
CIA/PID/IB-P-182/65 and P-183/65
- 3 Annotated Photos w/Overlay
CIA/PID/IB-P-184/65 thru P-186/65

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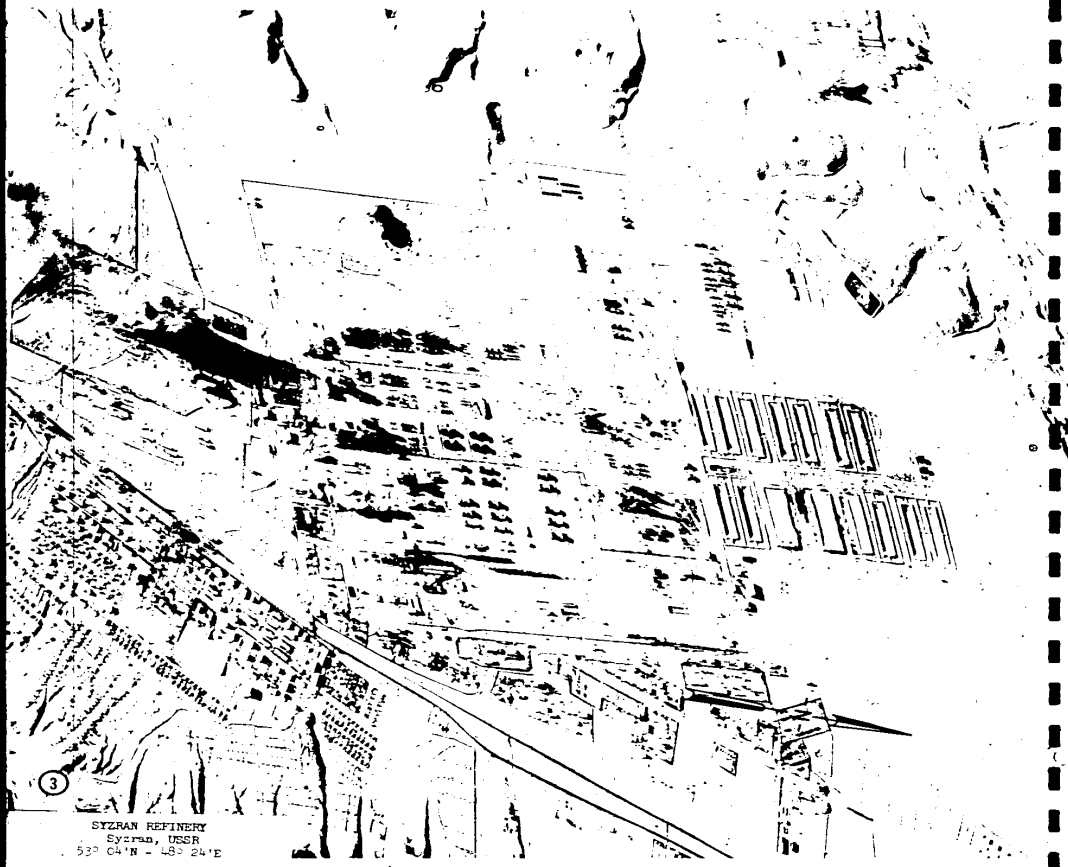
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SYZRAN REFINERY
Syzran, USSR
53° 04'N - 48° 24'E

CIA/PID/IB-
P-15-/65

PHOTO DATA:

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SYZRAN REFINERY
Syzran, USSR
53° 04'N - 48° 24'E 25X10

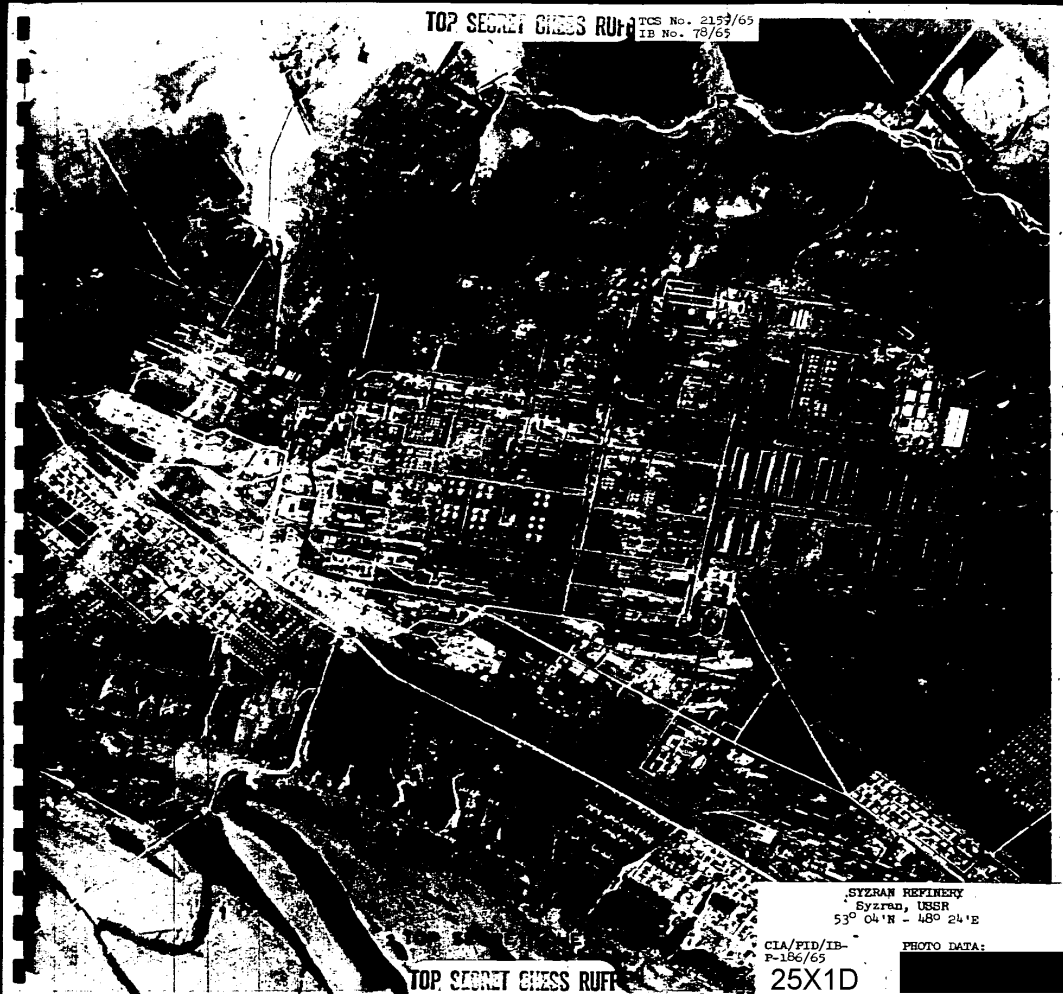
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PHOTO DATA:

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SYZRAN REFINERY
Syzran, USSR
53° 04'N - 48° 24'E

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